



WINS HONORS—Gail Kamery (seated), a senior business education student at Torrance High School, has won first place in the speed/accuracy typing contest in the ninth annual Honors Selection Conference. She won first place in the regional contest and eliminated 13 competitors who had won first or second place in regional contests. Gail is shown here with Mrs. Reba Grosch (left), her shorthand teacher, and Mrs. Grace Hinderis, her clerical production teacher. Gail, who typed 74 words per minute with one error, received a \$25 savings bond and a plaque. (Press-Herald Photo)

Count Marco

Bring Back the Age of Elegance

The age of elegance, when a woman was a woman, and a man was a man because of it, is starting a comeback.

It's a struggle, yes, but those of us who believe in it are bound and determined that a whole era of elegance must rise once again. You see it in the style of homes, the furniture, the lamps, the rugs and now the clothes.

Men, surprisingly, are the first in this country to start the move. Business suits, vests and evening clothes are taking on more daring, and men now discuss cut as well as fabric and color. Men's shoes are reviving the interest in the elegant, too.

Of course, the European male reintroduced all this on the grand scale to you by showing the American male that the way to romance a woman is to look romantic.

Then why must you women resist elegance in your fashions? Do you fear it? Or is it because you do not know exactly what is elegance in clothes? Actually, it is a combination of two things: fabrics and what fabrics do for you. True elegance comes from within, but it is the magnificent fabric that brings alive the spark.

When you shop for a gown you may try on five dresses, all of the same cut, design, and color, but perhaps only one will make you feel elegant. It is the fabric, always.

Many times have I seen on you a smart line, an interesting style, but I say to myself, "That gown is wrong on that woman. She doesn't feel it."

A designer may copy style and line, but if the fabric is inferior you subconsciously realize this and nothing happens within you. You do not shine.

Although I advocate the use of color in your wardrobe, it is nothing without the perfect fabric. You hug furs, caress jewels, rub the fingers across beautiful woods — but you fondle fabrics. And fabrics are as exciting as jewels.

A simple dress looks like a rag on you if it is made of inferior material, but with the right material, it looks not twice but a hundred times more exciting, because you carry it with pride, that is the difference; that is elegance.

As you become more elegant, start to shy away from the so-called cocktail dress and step into the longer dinner gowns and ball gowns.

And remember this about the dinner gown: It is perfectly acceptable to have plunge, but not down to the navel. Neither do

you bare your shoulders completely at dinner. Keep in mind that a dinner gown, because you are seated, should have most of the emphasis above the table, where the attention is focused. My, how elegant you do look, the perfect setting for that emerald necklace he thinks you should wear because you have inspired him to think of it. It does pay off, if you give it a chance.

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Obituaries

Valerie Thomas

Private services for Valerie Ann Thomas will be held at Stone and Myers Mortuary, with inurnment following at Roosevelt Park.

Mrs. Thomas, a resident of Torrance for the past five years, died Dec. 20. She was born April 29, 1934, in Oakland.

Survivors include her son, Johnnie Keene; three daughters, Michelle Williams, Robin Inmen, and Denielle Thomas; one sister, Billie Cook; and a brother, James Beatty of Berkeley.

Geritt Geerling

Gerrit Jan Geerling, a native of the Netherlands, died Dec. 22 after living at 2421 W. Carson St., Torrance, for the past 41 years. He was born Nov. 15, 1897.

Survivors include his widow, Berdine; two daughters, Connie Palm of Kingberg, Calif., and Geraldine Basher of Torrance; a son, Herald Bernard of Riverside; and two grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. in the Halverson-Leavell Mortuary Chapel. Interment will be at Green Hills.

Coffee House Will Open For Torrance Teenagers

The Torrance Recreation Center will take on the look of a coffee house Saturday, Jan. 11, as the Torrance Recreation Department brings to teenagers for the first time, a night of folk singing, espresso coffee, and a genuine coffee house atmosphere.

Amateur guitarists, singers, and folk groups are needed to perform. Auditions will be held Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Recreation Center strictly for performers of high school age.

Interested musicians must make reservations for an audition by contacting Joanne Tvedt at the Joslyn Center.

The coffee house will be open from 8 p.m. to midnight. The Recreation Center is located at 3341 Torrance Blvd.

Press Club Sets Yule Festivity

The Pacific Coast Press Club has scheduled a holiday social Dec. 28 at The San Pedro Elks Club, 1748 Cumber Drive.

The evening — which begins at 9 p.m. — will include a no-host private bar, hors d'oeuvres, entertainment and dancing. Tickets are \$2.50 per person.

Reservations and further information may be had by contacting the Pacific Coast Press Club, P.O. Box 20261, Long Beach, 90801.

Adoption Decrees Presented

Tuesday, December 17 was a joyous time for three area families, as they received final adoption papers on their new stepsons and daughters.

Dennis and Sandra Biscoe, 1233 W. 213th St., adopted an 11-month old boy, Michael Keith. They have no other children.

Wells and Shirley Wilson of Palos Verdes received final adjudication on Dawn Margaret, 9 months of age.

Kenneth and Mary Holste of Inglewood have adopted 14-month old Kathleen Marie. They have a natural daughter, Deborah, who is eight years of age.

Final adoption decrees were issued to 34 couples in formal ceremonies at the Los Angeles County Superior Court by Judge Lester E. Olson.

Officer

(Continued from Page 1)

tein told reporters in an interview, "The thing that motivated me to become a police officer was the fact that I would have an opportunity to meet somebody in the field that needed assistance."

Speaking of policemen's need for God, Ripstein said, "Policemen realize when they are out in the field they cannot rely solely on their own judgment but must seek help."

Dr. Orms staffing the Torrance Police Department.

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